

09/878,498

01SW102/ALBRP223US

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-22 and 24-31 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 1, 9, 21, 25, 27 and 30 have been amended as shown at pages 2-7 of the Reply. In addition, claims 5-8 and 23-26 have been cancelled. Applicants' representative appreciates the Examiner's acknowledgement that claims 14, 15 and 17-20 are allowed and claims 8 and 26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite limitations of claim 8 along with all limitations from intervening claims. Independent claim 21 has been amended to recite limitations of claim 26 along with all limitations from intervening claims. Independent claim 30 has been amended to recite allowable limitations from independent claim 14. Claims 9 and 27 have been amended to align with amendments to the independent claims and claim cancellations. In view of at least the foregoing, it is believed the application is in condition for allowance - a prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

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CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [ALBRP223US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

AMIN & TUROCY, LLP



Himanshu S. Amin

Reg. No. 40,894

AMIN & TUROCY, LLP  
24<sup>TH</sup> Floor, National City Center  
1900 E. 9<sup>TH</sup> Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114  
Telephone (216) 696-8730  
Facsimile (216) 696-8731